



Department of State

EXCISE
TELEGRAM

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AN: DB00200-0619

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 55-14 ADE-00 PM-03 SP-02 SMS-01 NSCE-00
INR-05 INRE-00 SSO-00 IAE-00 NSAE-00 ACUA-10
NEA-07 EB-04 SAS-01 HA 02 1062 W
-----039550 2217282 /40

O R 221635Z APR 80
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6691
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
DIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY MADRID
USMISSION USNATO
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDR/MB

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() DENVY () Non-responsive info.

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TS authority to:

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E.O. 12065: RDS-11 4/22/00 (ZIMMERMANN, WARREN) CH-P
TAGS: PEPR, FR, UR
SUBJECT: (U) THE GROMYKO VISIT TO PARIS: A PREVIEW

REFS: A. PARIS 12604 B. PARIS 12603 (N)

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREI GROMYKO
WILL BE IN PARIS APRIL 23-24 FOR WHAT THE FRENCH
ARE CALLING A "WORKING VISIT." GROMYKO WILL SEE
PRESIDENT GISCARD AND FOREIGN MINISTER FRANCOIS-PONCET.
ADVANCE INDICATIONS ARE THAT THE FRENCH WILL TRY
TO SEE TO IT THAT THE SOVIET INTERVENTION IN AFGHAN-
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ISTAN DOMINATES THE DISCUSSIONS, WITH CSCE/CUE

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SECOND ORDER SUBJECTS.

END

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B/c 3/5

SUMMARY.

3. GROMYKO ARRIVES APRIL 23 AND WILL SEE FRANCOIS-PONCET THAT AFTERNOON. PRESIDENT GISCARD THE NEXT MORNING, AND HAVE A SECOND SESSION WITH FRANCOIS-PONCET IN THE AFTERNOON. THE SCENE HAS BEEN SET BY TWO MAJOR SPEECHES IN PARIS LAST WEEK. FIRST, SOVIET AMBASSADOR CHERNOVENKO GAVE A TOUGH AND UNYIELDING PRESENTATION, GIVING NOT AN INCH ON AFGHANISTAN, HITTING INP MODERNIZATION, BUT ATTEMPTING TO STRESS THE SPECIAL FRANCO-SOVIET RELATIONSHIP AND THE CONTRIBUTION THAT IT CAN MAKE TO DETENTE (REF A). CHERNOVENKO GOT AN ANSWER TWO DAYS LATER WHEN FRANCOIS-PONCET GAVE A MAJOR FOREIGN POLICY SPEECH (REF B) BEFORE THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. FRANCOIS-PONCET REJECTED IN HARSH TONES SOVIET JUSTIFICATIONS FOR THE AFGHAN INTERVENTION, SAID THAT SOVIET TROOPS MUST WITHDRAW, BUT THREATENED NO CONCRETE ACTIONS, INSTEAD ASSERTING THAT THE SOVIET ACTIONS UNDERMINE DETENTE.

4.

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B/c 3/5

PESSIMISTIC ON ANY EARLY WITHDRAWAL OF SOVIET FORCES FROM AFGHANISTAN, AS THE SOVIET FORCES ARE BOGGED DOWN IN COUNTER-INSURGENCY. THIS
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PESSIMISM HAS INCREASED SINCE THE FIRST FRENCH REACTION TO THE INVASION, WHEN AT LEAST SOME IN THE GOF THOUGHT THAT THIS WOULD BE A SHORT-TERM AFFAIR. THE FRENCH SEE THREE MAJOR ELEMENTS IN SOVIET POLICY:

A. THE US/SOVIET RELATIONSHIP, CENTERED AROUND S.A.T., WHICH IS ON THE BACK BURNER AT LEAST UNTIL AFTER THE US ELECTIONS.

G. THE SOVIET EMPHASIS ON DETENTE IN EUROPE AS

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DEFINED BY THE SOVIETS. THIS IS AN EFFORT TO SPLIT OFF THE US FROM ITS ALLIES. THE SOVIETS OFFER A MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CARROTS TO THE FRG AND FRANCE, BELIEVING THAT THESE TWO COUNTRIES HAVE, FOR DIFFERENT REASONS, THE BIGGEST STAKE IN DETENTE.

3. SOVIET ACTIVISM IN THE THIRD WORLD WITH THE SOVIETS TRYING TO EXPLOIT ANY OPPORTUNITY.

4. WE INFER FROM OUR INTERLOCUTEURS COMMENTS THAT THE FRENCH THINK THAT THEY CAN DO LITTLE ABOUT US-SOVIET RELATIONS, INTEND TO BE STRONG IN THEIR RHETORIC ON THE SOVIET DANGER TO DETENTE IN EUROPE.

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O N 221635Z APR 60
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECRETARY WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6693
INFO ALL EC CAPITAL
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
DIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY MADRID
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AND WOULD LIKE THE SOVIETS TO BE MET ON THE GROUND
IN THE THIRD WORLD.

GROMYKO TO PRESS THEM FOR
BUSINESS AS USUAL. THE FRENCH SAY THAT THEY WILL
REPLY THAT THE SOVIETS CANNOT COUNT ON FRENCH
COOPERATION IN INSULATING EUROPE AS AN ISLAND OF
STABILITY IN AN OTHERWISE TROUBLED WORLD.

6.

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FRENCH ARE GOING TO TRY TO CONVINCE THE SOVIETS THAT
THEIR CONTINUED PRESENCE IN AFGHANISTAN MEANS THE
LOSS OF 15 YEARS OF PATIENT WORK ON DETENTE, PROVOKES
THE THIRD WORLD, REINFORCES THE BLOC, ENCOURAGES
THE SINO-US RAPPROCHMENT, AND FUELS THE ARMS RACE.
THUS ULTIMATELY THE SOVIETS WILL END UP IN A WORSE
POSITION THAN THEY ARE CURRENTLY IN.

6. COMMENT: THE FRENCH HAVE NO ILLUSIONS THAT THE
GROMYKO VISIT WILL LEAD TO ANY PROGRESS ON AFGHANISTAN.

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